

The consequence o' th' Crowne, and must not foyle
The precious note of it; with a base Slaue,
A Hilding for a Liourie, a Squires Cloth,
A Pantler; not so eminent.

Imo. Prophane Fellow:

Wert thou the Sonne of *Iupiter*, and no more,
But what thou art besides: thou wert too base,
To be his Groom: thou wert dignified enough
Euen to the point of Ennie. If 'twere made
Comparatiue for your Vertues, to be stil'd
The vnder Hangman of his Kingdome; and hated
For being prefer'd so well.

Clot. The South-Fog rot him.

Imo. He neuer can meete more mischance, then come
To be but nam'd of thee. His mean't Garment
That euer hath but clipp'd his body; is dearer
In my respect, then all the Heires about thee,
Were they all made such men: How now *Pisania*?

Enter Pisania.

Clot. His Garments? Now the diuell.

Imo. To *Dorothy* my woman hie thee presently.

Clot. His Garment?

Imo. I am sprighted with a Foole,
Frighted, and angry worke: Go bid my woman
Search for a Jewell, that too casually
Hath left mine Arme: it was thy Masters. Shrew me
If I would loose it for a Reuenew,
Of any Kings in Europe. I do think,
I saw't this morning: Confident I am.
Last night 'twas on mine Arme; I kiss'd it,
I hope it be not gone, to tell my Lord
That I kisse aught but he.

Pis. 'Twill not be lost.

Imo. I hope so: go and search.

Clot. You haue abus'd me:

His meanest Garment?

Imo. I, I said so Sir,

If you will make't an Action, call witness to't.

Clot. I will enforme your Father.

Imo. Your Mother too:

She's my good Lady; and will conceiue, I hope

But the worst of me. So I leaue your Sir,

To'th' worst of discontent.

Clot. He bereueng'd:

His mean't Garment? Well.

Scena Quarta.

Enter Posthumus, and Philario.

Post. Feare it not Sir: I would I were so sure
To winne the King, as I am bold, her Honour
Will remaine her's.

Phil. What meanes do you make to him?

Post. Not any: but abide the change of Time,
Quake in the present winters state, and wish
That warmer dayes would come: In these fear'd hope
I barely gratifie your loue; they sayling
I must die much your debtor.

Phil. Your very goodnesse, and your company,
Ore-payes all I can do. By this your King,
Hath heard of Great *Augustus*: *Caius Lucius*,
Will do's Commission throughly. And I think

Hee'll grant the Tribute: send th' Arrerages,
Or looke vpon our Romaines, whose remembrance
Is yet fresh in their grieffe.

Post. I do beleue

(Statist though I am none, nor like to be)
That this will proue a Warre; and you shall heare
The Legion now in Gallia, sooner landed
In our not-fearing Britaine, then haue tydings
Of any penny Tribute paid. Our Countrymen
Are men more order'd, then when *Iulius Caesar*
Smil'd at their lacke of skill, but found their courage
Worthy his frowning at. Their discipline,
(Now wing-led with their courages) will make knowne
To their Approuers, they are People, such
That mend vpon the world.

Enter Iachimo.

Phil. See *Iachimo*.

Post. The swiftest Harts, haue posted you by land;
And Windes of all the Corners kiss'd your Sails,
To make your vessell nimble.

Phil. Welcome Sir,

Post. I hope the briefenesse of your answer, made
The speedinesse of your returne.

Iach. Your Lady,

Is one of the fayrest that I haue look'd vpon

Post. And therewithall the best, or let her beauty
Looke thorough a Casement to allure false hearts,
And be false with them.

Iach. Heere are Letters for you.

Post. Their tenure good I trust.

Iach. 'Tis very like.

Post. Was *Caius Lucius* in the Britaine Court,
When you were there?

Iach. He was expected then,

But not approach'd.

Post. All is well yet,
Sparkles this Stone as it was wont, or is't not
Too dull for your good wearing?

Iach. If I haue lost it,

I should haue lost the worth of it in Gold,
He make a iourney twice as farre, 'enjoy
A second night of such sweet shortnesse, which
Was mine in Britaine, for the Ring is wonne.

Post. The Stones too hard to come by.

Iach. Not a whit,

Your Lady being so easy.

Post. Make note Sir

Your losse, your Sport: I hope you know that we
Must not continue Friends.

Iach. Good Sir, we must

If you keepe Couenant: had I not brought
The knowledge of your Mistris home, I grant
We were to question farther; but I now
Professe my selfe the winner of her Honor,
Together with your Ring; and not the wronger
Of her, or you hauing proceeded but
By both your willes.

Post. If you can mak't apparant
That you haue tasted her in Bed; my hand,
And Ring is yours. If not, the foule opinion
You had o' her pure Honour; gainer, or looses,
Your Sword, or mine, or Masterlesse leaue both
To who shall finde them.

Iach. Sir, my Circumstances
Being so nere the Truth, as I will make them,
Must first induce you to beleue; whose strength
I will confirme wit h oath, which I doubt not

You'll

You'll giue me leaue to spare, when you shall finde
You neede it not.

Post. Proceed.

Iach. First, her Bed-chamber

(Where I confesse I slept not, but professe
Had that was well worth watching) it was hang'd
With Tapistry of Silke, and Siluer, the Story
Proud *Cleopatra*, when she met her Roman,
And *Sidnus* swell'd above the Bankes, or for
The presse of Boates, or Price. A peece of Worke
So brauely done, so rich, that it did striue
In Workmanship, and Value, which I wonder'd
Could be so rarely, and exactly wrought
Since the true life on't was

Post. This is true:

And this you might haue heard of heere, by me,
Or by some other.

Iach. More particulars

Must iustifie my knowledge.

Post. So they must,

Or doe your Honour injury.

Iach. The Chimney

Is South the Chamber, and the Chimney-peece
Chaste *Dian*, bathing: neuer saw I figures
Solikely to report themselves; the Cutter
Was as another Nature dumbe, out-went her,
Motion, and Breath left out.

Post. This is a thing

Which you might from Relation likewise reape,
Being, as it is, much spoke of.

Iach. The Rooft o' th' Chamber,

With golden Cherubins is fretted. Her Andirons
(I had forgot them) were two winking Cupids
Of Siluer, each on one foote standing, nicely
Depending on their Brands.

Post. This is her Honor:

Let it be granted you haue seene all this (and praise
Be giuen to your remembrance) the description
Of what is in her Chamber, nothing faues
The wager you haue laid.

Iach. Then if you can

Be pale, I begge but leaue to ayre this Jewell: See,
And now 'tis vp againe: it must be married
To that your Diamond, He keepe them.

Post. Ioue

Once more let me behold it: Is it that
Which I left with her?

Iach. Sir (I thanke her) that

She stript it from her Arme: I see her yet:
Her pretty Action, did out-sell her giuft,
And yet enrich'd it too: she gaue it me,
And said, she priz'd it once.

Post. May be, she pluck'd it off

To send it me.

Iach. She writes so to you? doth shee?

Post. O no, no, no, 'tis true. Heere, take this too,
It is a Basiliske vnto mine eye,
Killes me to looke on't: Let there be no Honor,
Where there is Beauty: Truth, where semblance: Loue,
Where there's another man. The Vowes of Women,
Of no more bondage be, to where they are made,
Then they are to their Vertues, which is nothing:
O, about measure false.

Phil. Haue patience Sir,

And take your Ring againe, 'tis not yet wonne:
It may be probable she lost it: or

Who knowes if one her women, being corrupted
Hath stolne it from her.

Post. Very true,

And so I hope he came by't: backe my Ring,
Render to me some corporall signe about her
More euident then this: for this was stolne.

Iach. By *Iupiter*, I had it from her Arme.

Post. Hearke you, he sweares: by *Iupiter* he sweares.
'Tis true, nay keepe the Ring; 'tis true: I am sure
She would not loose it: her Attendants are
All sworne, and honourable: they induc'd to steale it?
And by a Stranger? No, he hath enioy'd her,
The Cognizance of her incontinencie
Is this: she hath bought the name of Whore, thus deeply
There, take thy hyre, and all the Fiends of Hell
Diuide themselves betwene you.

Phil. Sir, be patient:

This is not strong enough to be beleu'd
Of one perswaded well of.

Post. Neuer talke on't:
She hath bin colted by him.

Iach. If you seeke

For further satisfying, vnder her Breast
(Worthy her pressing) lyes a Mole, right proud
Of that most delicate Lodging. By my life
I kiss't it, and it gaue me present hunger
To feede againe, though full. You do remember
This staine vpon her?

Post. I, and it doth confirme
Another staine, as bigge as Hell can hold,
Were there no more but it.

Iach. Will you heare more?

Post. Spare your Arithmaticke,
Neuer count the Turnes: Once, and a Million.

Iach. He be sworne.

Post. No swearing:

If you will sweare you haue not done't, you lye,
And I will kill thee, if thou do'st deny
Thou'lt made me Cuckold.

Iach. He deny nothing.

Post. O that I had her heere, to teare her Limb-meale:

I will go there and doo't, i'th' Court, before

Her Father. He do something.

Exit.

Phil. Quite besides

The government of Patience. You haue wonne:
Let's follow him, and peruert the present wrath
He hath against himselfe.

Iach. With all my heart.

Exeunt.

Enter Posthumus.

Post. Is there no way for Men to be, but Women
Must be halfe-workers? We are all Bastards,
And that most venerable man, which I
Did call my Father, was, I know not where
When I was stamp't. Some Coyner with his Toolles
Made me a counterfeit: yet my Mother seem'd
The *Dian* of that time: so doth my Wife
The Non-pareill of this. Oh Vengeance, Vengeance!
Me of my lawfull pleasure she restrain'd,
And pray'd me oft forbearance: did it with
A pudencie so Rosie, the sweet view on't
Might well haue warm'd olde Saturne;
That I thought her
As Chaste, as vn-Sun'd Snow. Oh, all the Diuels!
This yellow *Iachimo* in an houre, was't not?

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Or